

**Community Early Childhood Council (CECC)  
Project Summaries**

**Allen/ Logan/ Simpson**

The Allen/Logan/Simpson Counties Council is requesting funds to improve the quality of arts, humanities, and health. Family activities and training in First Aid/CPR, Health and Quality Self Study will be offered to providers. Mini-grants for assessment tools, resource kits and scholarships for professional development will be available to centers.

**Barren**

The Barren County Community Early Childhood Council seeks to improve the quality of child care received by children in our county, through increasing the availability of literacy trainings for staff and parents. Distribution of age appropriate curriculum support and resources for child care providers will further enhance child care provided.

**Bath**

The Bath County Community Early Childhood Council will award mini-grants to centers participating in STARS, offer reimbursement and stipends for training, provide a substitute pool for centers, provide assessment tools to qualifying centers, and provide information and education on transitioning and Building a Strong Foundation for School Success.

**Bell/Harlan**

The Bell/Harlan Counties Community Early Childhood Council will focus its efforts on supporting the healthy growth and development of children by providing local and regional training opportunities that incorporate the Kentucky Early Childhood Standards; learning center enrichments and technical support; strengthen and promote use of the existing local Lending Library; and continue community outreach activities.

**Boone**

The Boone County Community Early Childhood Council will use funding to: promote usage of the Kentucky Early Childhood Standards; host professional development opportunities; facilitate an early childhood fair; host leaders circles; support child care appreciation day project; provide grants to assist centers in purchasing approved screening or assessment tools, and send 2 council members to the Annual Meeting.

**Boyd**

The Boyd County Community Early Childhood Council is requesting funds to provide quality child care mini-grants for all centers, seamless transition program, training for child care providers and screening/assessment of children in child care program. Money will also provide early childhood educational materials for parents of children birth to 5.

**Boyle**

The Boyle County Community Early Childhood Council will encourage child care facilities to participate in the STARS program by offering free training hours. The Council will promote awareness of child abuse with the community. The council will also support new parents by providing parent informational totes at community locations.

**Butler/ Edmonson**

The Butler/Edmonson Community Early Childhood Council is proposing to utilize funds to enhance the quality of care by continuing to support and promote area providers' professional development opportunities. Funds will also be designated for family involvement activities, assessment instruments, recruitment actions and mini-grant opportunities necessary to promote appropriate learning environments for young children.

**Caldwell/Lyon**

The Caldwell/Lyon Community Early Childhood Council projects include promoting continuous assessment through mini-grants for approved tools and training, hosting a Kindergarten transition project to help children cope with their new school environment, providing training for caregivers in our counties and assisting centers with improving their STARS environment rating scores.

**Calloway**

The Calloway County Community Early Childhood Council will provide 10 initiatives; 1) Build community partnerships to ensure sustainability; 2) Early Childhood Standards training series; 3) Mini-grants to support the use of the Early Childhood Standards; 4) TIPP training and reimbursement; 5) Mini-grant for approved screening/assessment tools; 6) "Honor the STARS"; 7) CPR/First Aid Training; 8) Parent involvement training program; 9) Early Childhood Transition Project; and 10) Community screening.

#### **Campbell/ Kenton**

The Campbell/Kenton County Community Early Childhood Council has planned projects that include: 1) training and materials on specific learning domains in Kentucky's Early Childhood Standards including health/physical education/motor, social studies, arts/humanities, creative expression and social emotional; 2) literacy fair; 3) assessment tools and funds to attend TIPP trainings; 4) send 2 representatives to the Annual Meeting; 5) Marketing materials and activities to promote STARS and/or quality child care and kindergarten readiness.

#### **Carroll**

The Carroll County Community Early Childhood Council will provide activities to support the Community. Young children need nurturing communities to thrive in. To build thriving communities there must be support for all children, through opportunities to learn, with additional assistance for families. Our council is working to organize collaborative partners who strive to build "systems of care" to meet the needs of children and families.

#### **Casey**

The Casey County Community Early Childhood Council is requesting funding for Project Enhance. Project Enhance will empower local licensed providers by: 1) integrating developmentally appropriate curriculum along with child and program assessments; 2) focusing on community partnerships for early literacy and math development; and 3) enriching local child care environments.

#### **Christian**

The Christian County Community Early Childhood Council is requesting funds to support projects that include continuing support to providers using continuous assessment; offering directors Quality Self Study Training; provide transition activities for incoming kindergarteners; providing Second Steps Kits as a resource for providers and families; collaborating with the Literacy Council on increasing information and resources to families of children birth to 4; and increasing STARS awareness.

#### **Clark**

The Clark County Community Early Childhood Council intends to provide local trainings at no cost to centers. Age appropriate materials that enrich the topic of the trainings will be given to each center in attendance. Trainings on how to perform the assessments will continue to be offered to caregivers.

#### **Clay**

The Clay County Community Early Childhood Council facilitates quality early care and education of children through: 1) bookmobile/Lending Library; 2) KIDSNO NOW community partnerships; 3) Increasing screening/assessment tools and use of curriculum; 4) Increasing training on KY Early Childhood Standards, Quality Self Study, and healthy development; and 5) promoting STARS program and increasing regulated child care slots.

#### **Daviess**

The Daviess County Community Early Childhood Council project components include: 1) support for directors on Building a Strong Foundation for School Success: Kentucky's Quality Self Study for Early Childhood Programs; 2) community outreach for families through a Family Fair and Imagination Library; 3) recruit certified homes; 4) mini-grants for purchase of statewide assessment tools; 5) increase knowledge through statewide institute; and 6) hire project coordinator.

#### **Fayette**

The Fayette County Community Early Childhood Council will improve quality in child care through screening and assessment tool grants, mini-grants and professional development training. The Council will increase STARS participation and promote the acceptance of diversity in accordance with the STARS rating system.

#### **Fleming**

The Fleming County Community Early Childhood Council works in collaboration with the Fleming County Interagency Council and various community partners toward the goal of quality child care for Fleming County children. The council provides professional development training, literacy materials and mini-grant opportunities to certified and licensed child care providers participating in STARS to enable them to better serve the children of Fleming County.

#### **Floyd**

The Floyd County Community Early Childhood Council proposes to: 1) increase ERS scores by purchasing materials for their learning centers; 2) increase knowledge of Kentucky's Early Childhood Standards; 3) funds for community partner's literacy program; 4) funds for early childhood training; 5) training and purchasing of screening and assessment tools; and 6) start-up funds for new centers.

#### **Four Rivers**

The Four Rivers Council projects include: 1) training guided by ERS and KY Early Childhood Standards; 2) mini-grants (screening/assessment tools, CPR/First Aid, minor facility changes and new licensed providers; 3) membership's commitment tied to sustainability; 4) parent/community involvement activities building knowledge; and 5) continued support of providers through Kids Corners.

#### **Franklin**

The Franklin County Community Early Childhood Council will maintain communication with county agents, specialists, and personnel from organizations in related disciplines to plan, execute and administrate early childhood enhancements based on locally identified needs. Our goal is improved quality of living for children and families. With funding our proposed projects will yield success.

#### **Grant**

Through a strong council network, the Grant County Community Early Childhood Council will focus on helping families, providers and the community become more aware of available resources to ensure children's success in early care and education. The Council will make funds available for the state recommended assessment tools, training and continue to offer local child care conferences.

#### **Graves/Marshall**

The Graves/Marshall Community Early Childhood Council determined that a program designed to evaluate the quality of programs in which our children are nurtured learn and grow, opportunities to promote caregivers/teachers professional development through intensive use of the Kentucky Early Childhood Standards and materials and to meet both of these needs were important. Together Graves and Marshall counties have developed a plan to increase quality care provided to children and families that would: 1) provide training for facility/home-based child care providers that includes an intensive use/study of the Kentucky Early Childhood Standards; 2) educate facility and home-based child care providers regarding integrating Kentucky's Quality Self Study for Early Childhood Programs; 3) provide community opportunities to recognize the importance early care and education; and 4) furnish curriculum and parent involvement materials for use by child care providers. The project is titled "The Foundations for the Future".

#### **Green/Taylor**

The Green/Taylor Community Early Childhood Council functions to create, expand, and strengthen quality of early child care and education. This will be accomplished by an increased number of providers participating in STARS and receiving screening/assessment training and tools to identify developmental problems in young children.

#### **Greenup/ Elliot/ Carter**

By investing in the children, families, and communities of the Carter/Elliott/Greenup Community Early Childhood Council's Service Area, much can be gained. Specifically increasing the quality of care children receive in the area's programs. Supply each community's economically strapped families with vital information about tax credits. Establishing a website to promote and sustain council influence.

#### **Hancock**

The Hancock County Community Early Childhood Council project intends to provide start up funds for a new, licensed child care center, provide funds to a licensed preschool for the purchase of outdoor equipment, and support the quality of existing licensed centers by increasing to STAR 2 level and providing training to our local child care workers.

#### **Hardin**

The Hardin County Community Early Childhood Council proposes to provide: 1) funding for CPR/First Aid training for three staff/licensed center and two staff/family home programs; 2) Assessment training stipends; 3) training on specific assessment tools; 4) Funding to purchase assessment tools; and 5) Reimbursement for staff salary attending state mandated clock hour trainings.

#### **Hart/Metcalf/Monroe**

The Hart/Metcalf/Monroe Community Early Childhood Council identifies the need for early care and education providers to receive materials to enhance their learning environments and strive to maintain or increase their STAR level and to access screening and assessment tools for on-going screening and assessment for children.

#### **Henderson**

The Henderson County Community Early Childhood Council proposed the following activities: 1) promote community outreach through the Family Literacy Project and monthly newsletters; 2) recruit certified homes; 3) provide mini-grants for purchasing developmental assessment tools; 4) foster partnerships through Audubon Area Council Project Coordinator; and 5) Increase knowledge through statewide institute training.

#### **Jackson**

The Jackson County Community Early Childhood Council will be collaborating with an Early Steps to School Success project with a community garden by three schools, as well as two community trainings for providers and parents. WE will also offer mini-grants for our three STAR programs, and purchasing items for our resource library.

#### **Jefferson**

The Jefferson County Community Early Childhood Council will partner with local organizations to implement a community-wide screening project to help parents identify and address potential developmental issues with their children. Parents will be offered the opportunity to conduct the Ages and Stages Questionnaire on their children. Parents will also be connected to resources and services if indicated.

#### **Johnson**

The Johnson County Community Early Childhood Council's goal is to work towards the implemented strategies enhancing literacy, increasing physical activities and improving the nutritional status of Johnson County's young children by educating children, parents, and staff on issues related to the growing epidemic of obesity in our community and in our participating STAR child care programs.

#### **LaRue**

Due to LaRue County's low literacy and the importance of quality early education for future success, LaRue County Early Childhood Council will focus on pre-kindergarten children and their caregivers to improve early childhood education with a special emphasis on literacy and the use of standards and assessments to improve programs.

#### **Laurel/ Whitley/ Knox**

The Laurel, Whitley, Knox Community Early Childhood Council will be concentrating on supporting their 25 STARS programs, developing more family child care homes, and working on the infrastructure of their council. They will also be embarking on a marketing/publicity campaign, which will involve setting up at several community events.

#### **Lawrence**

The Lawrence County Community Early Childhood Council is requesting funds to improve quality care and education through trainings, screenings and assessments, mini-grants for all families and providers who serve children age's birth to five years old. Funds will also be used to increase participating centers' STARS levels.

#### **Lincoln**

The Lincoln County Community Early Childhood Council will support projects which focus on increasing quality child care and STAR participation. Past grant cycles have seen great improvement, adding 2 STAR centers. Projects will also focus on adding diverse trainings for child care staff. Continued emphasis will be placed on assessment tools and increasing council participation.

#### **Livingston**

The Livingston County Community Early Childhood Council will provide educational opportunities for parents and other providers through caregiver classes. The Council will address the effects of rural isolation for parents by providing more accessible assessment opportunities. In addition efforts will be made to recruit and encourage additional slots for quality child care.

#### **Madison**

In order to address the need for accessible training, to encourage participation in the STARS for KIDS NOW quality rating system, and to improve early education, the Madison County Early Childhood Council will implement a plan that includes mini-grants, training, public awareness, and assessment.

#### **Magoffin**

The Magoffin County Community Early Childhood Council will provide: 1) assistance to child care facilities to participate in the STARS program; 2) increase their ERS scores by purchasing materials for their learning centers; 3) encourage training and the purchase of assessment tools; 4) literacy by providing books for children ages birth to age 5; and 5) mini-grants to purchase educational materials.

#### **Marion/ Washington**

The Marion/Washington Community Early Childhood Council will provide projects to include: educational materials, mini-grants, CPR/First Aid training, purchase screening/assessment tools, stipends for training salary, child care training, and distribution of quarterly newsletter, "Baby and Me" program, and substitutes for staff to utilize screening and assessment tools.

#### **Martin**

The Martin County Community Early Childhood Council's goal is to continue efforts for the recruitment of child care in our county due to the insufficient supply of regulated care and to support our child care centers participating in the STARS program. We will also focus on how to support children and families with exceptional needs.

#### **Mason**

The Mason County Community Early Childhood Council requests funds to increase the number of STARS rated child care centers; continue with the next step of the assessment training for child care providers; purchase state approved screening and assessment tools; purchase manipulatives;

provide a three hour training for child care providers on how to use the manipulatives in the classroom curriculum; and to create an urgency in the community for the need for quality child care in Mason County.

#### **McLean**

The McLean County Community Early Childhood Council will support projects to include: 1) mini-grants for purchase of an assessment tool; 2) increase/maintain STARS center ratings; 3) recruit certified home providers; 4) building partnerships through community events; 5) training of providers in Kentucky's Quality Self Study for Early Childhood Programs; and 6) continuation of the Imagination Library.

#### **McCracken**

The McCracken County Community Early Childhood Councils will use funds to support: an increased participation in using the Kentucky Early Childhood Standards and in STARS participation; Collaboration with surrounding councils for West KY Institute; educate families and caregivers through Health Fairs, Expos, LEAP, and trainings; transition all children to kindergarten; create a lending library; and free trainings and mini-grants to help children for school readiness.

#### **McCreary/Pulaski**

The McCreary/Pulaski Community Early Childhood Council will continue to develop synergy as a combined council and increase the quality of children's lives by offering high-quality trainings, obesity education, provide mini-grants, and incentives for staff to attend more training. The Council will utilize technology (ITV and a council website) to enhance inter-county communication.

#### **Menifee**

The Menifee County Community Early Childhood Council will utilize funding by providing support activities for licensed child care providers through mini-grants and increasing their participation in STARS. WE also plan to provide professional development for all certified and licensed providers. Our efforts are to ensure that each child begins with a safe and healthy start.

#### **Montgomery**

The Montgomery Community Early Childhood Council requests funding for projects and training designed to improve early childhood care and education. Projects will focus on areas such as behavior issues, positive communication with children, substitute providers, literacy, transition, successful business management, safety and prevention of childhood obesity.

#### **Nelson**

The Nelson County Community Early Childhood Council's goal is to provide training, materials, and support to improve the child care environment of the community. The mini-grants will focus on developmentally appropriate equipment related to the environment rating scale for STARS. Training will include First Aid/CPR, professional development, use of assessment/screening tool and MAMA project.

#### **Ohio**

The Ohio County Community Early Childhood Council will 1) collaborate with community partners to offer two series of "Small Steps to Health and Wealth", including developmental assets to families with children birth to five years; 2) recruit certified homes; and 3) offer mini-grants for purchase of a statewide assessment tool.

#### **Pendleton**

The Pendleton County Community Early Childhood Council proposes to promote participation in the STARS program, offer mini-grants for start-up of one center and for programs requesting mulch and portable sinks, enhance community literacy activities, collaborate with community partners to offer training for child care staff, and provide access to assessment/screening tools and training.

#### **Pike**

The Pike county Community Early Childhood Council proposes to 1) offer mini-grants to carry out Quality Self Study and increase Environment Rating Scale scores; 2) increase knowledge of the Kentucky Early Childhood Standards; 3) provide funds for trainings and purchase of screening/assessment tools; 4) provide start-up funds for new certified homes; 5) increase STAR participation; and 6) acquire a project coordinator.

#### **Robertson**

The Robertson County Community Early Childhood Council works to educate parents and the community on the issues of literacy, nutrition, obesity, safety, and child abuse prevention and provides a mini-grant to providers participating in STARS as an effort to improve the quality of child care in Robertson County.

#### **Rockcastle**

The Rockcastle County Community Early Childhood Council will be working in for different areas. The first will be mini-grants for our five licensed programs which are all STAR rated. Second component will be updating our resource library, and third and fourth components will be professional development and publicity/marketing activities.

#### **Rowan**

Rowan County Community Early Childhood Council proposes to enhance Rowan County's young children lives through monetary grants for training and assessment for child care facilities. The facilities will receive staff resource books and books for their children's libraries. The children will be given books to keep. Families will be given flyers about quality child care.

#### **Rural KIPDA**

The Rural KIPDA Community Early Childhood Council plans to improve the safety and quality of care in our rural child care programs by offering a variety of trainings to child care providers, offering mini-grants to STAR programs demonstrating a need to increase their quality and mini-grants to purchase approved screening and classroom instructional assessment tools.

#### **Russell**

The Russell County Community Early Childhood Council extends collaboration among resources within the community. To increase the awareness, disbursement of information, and the range of early care professionals who serve this population; the Council plans to offer training, coordinate initiatives that encourage family involvement, and provide mini-grants to improve quality in early care.

#### **Scott**

The Scott County Community Early Childhood Council proposes to increase quality in early care and education by increasing the availability to training and providing Literacy Kits, a project Coordinator for community transition support to programs and to rotate early childhood resources. Lastly, the Council will provide training on Parent Guides and min-grants for assessment tools.

#### **Todd**

The Todd County Community early Childhood council wishes to help child care providers to improve services and address school readiness and the STARS rating system. There will be collaboration between local providers, the Family Resource Center, Todd County Schools, and other agencies. Children will be the beneficiaries.

#### **Trigg**

The Trigg County Community Early Childhood Council projects include transitioning activities for incoming kindergarten students, expansions of the Family Reading Program already implemented in child care centers, continuation of the council's assessment plan including on-line assessment, providing 18 hours of child care provider trainings, and mini-grants to improve environment rating scores and encourage STARS participation.

#### **Union**

The Union County CECC Projects for this year will include: 1) support for directors on Building a Strong Foundation for School Success Series: Kentucky's Quality Self Study for Early Childhood Programs; 2) community outreach through support of Imagination Library; 3) mini-grant for purchase of statewide assessment too; and 4) build community partnerships with World's Greatest Baby Shower and ReadxFest.

#### **United 4 KIDS**

The goal of the United 4 KIDS Council is to enhance child care services by raising community awareness relating to KIDS NOW Quality Initiative. The Council will assist child care facilities by offering incentives and purchasing materials for learning centers. The Council will offer professional development in the implementation of assessment tools as outlined in the Building a Strong Foundation for School Success Series.

#### **Warren**

The Warren County Community Early Childhood Council identifies the need for all child care providers to receive enhanced training on the Early Childhood Standards, receive screening and assessment tool mini-grants and for programs to receive appropriate materials to enhance their learning environment to obtain, maintain or exceed their STAR level.

#### **Wayne**

The Wayne County Community Early Childhood Council will continue efforts to improve quality in early care and education through establishment and renewal of partnerships with local early childhood agencies. Provision of quality training opportunities, increasing awareness of available resources to early care providers and encouraging participation in STARS for KIDS NOW through mini-grants to improve the Environment Rating Scale scores thereby reaching a higher STAR level are included in our efforts.

#### **Webster**

The Webster County Community Early Childhood Council's objectives include 1) continued promotion of the Imagination Library Project; 2) Parent/child internet safety program; 3) successful school transition for preschool children and their parents; 4) Building community partners and child abuse awareness; and 5) promote self study with child care directors.